Labour is implementing a scheme for providing employment-oriented technical education to minorities.

(vii) States/UITs have been asked to issue orders to enable District Collectors to disburse ex-gratia relief to the victims of the communal violence expeditiously.

(viii) Powers have been given to Chief Executive Officers of State Wakf Boards under Sections 54 and 55 of the Wakf Act 1995 to remove encroachments from Wakf properties (including graveyards) and seek assistance of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of the area, if necessary.

Theft of Cast Iron Pipes

*370. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cast iron pipes have been mischievously stolen from the DDA's Central Store at Azadpur;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any connivance with the DDA staff in the theft of the pipes is suspected;

(d) if so, whether the racket involved in the theft of the pipes has been identified; and

(e) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 8th May, 1998, a theft of 49 numbers of 150 mm dia. of Pipes each 5.5 mtr. long, was detected. FIR was lodged with the Jahangirpuri Police Station on the same day.

(c) to (e) The Police is investigating the matter. Departmental enquiry has also been ordered by Vice Chairman, DDA. Action against the DDA staff, if found involved, will be taken after the investigation/enquiry is completed.

Modernisation of Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants

*371. SHRI C.O. POULOSE:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of irregularities in the modernisation of Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants;

(b) if so, whether Government have made enquiries in the matter; and

(c) the findings of the enquiry and the steps taken by Government on these findings?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK): (a) and (b) Complaints/references received in the Ministry alleging irregularities in respect of modernisation projects at Durgapur Steel Plant and Rourkela Steel Plant of SAIL are duly examined in consultation with concerned authorities. As on date, no formal enquiry has been ordered by Ministry of Steel in this regard.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

Setting up of NIOH in state capitals

*372. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move to increase the number of National Institutes for the Orthopaedically Handicapped (NIOH) all over the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that no State capitals have any such institutes on the

		A revised plan, denovo, keeping the criterion of BIFR of networth becoming positive, options available for financing the Turn Around Plan and Techno-economic feasibility study, unit-wise, is under consideration of the Govt.
2.	There should be no retrenchment	This has been accepted. Only VRS is been implemented for rationalising the surplus workforce. Ajudhia Textile Mills, Delhi has been closed pursuant to the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India with additional compensation of six years wages to the workers.
3.	There should be no privatisation.	This has been accepted and no privatisation is envisaged.
4.	Taken Over Mills would be nationalized	The 15 Taken Over Mills has been nationalised by Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995.
5.	Surplus land may be disposed of and the proceeds should utilised by the management for modernisation working capital etc.	The sale of surplus lands and assets could not be effected in the absence of approval of the BIFR and also of the State Governments of Maharashtra. The matter is being pursued vigorously with the State Government of Maharashtra at the highest level.
6.	Steps shall be taken to move the BIFR to accept the above proposals and close the cases.	The Govt. place before the BIFR on 8.6.95 the revised Turn Around Plan approved by the Cabinet for their approval. The BIFR thereafter, asked the Operating Agencies (OAs) to re-examine their earlier Schemes prepared by them on the basis of the proposals placed before the BIFR by the Govt. After detailed deliberation, BIFR observed that the revival plan is unviable in respect of NTC (UP) Ltd., NTC (MP), NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. and NTC (WBAB&O) Ltd., since there net worth would not become positive in 10 years after the implementation of the plan unless Government loans and interest thereon are waived and therefore, issued show-cause notice for winding up. In respect of other four subsidiaries, BIFR has asked for various concessions from the concerned parties which are difficult to meet. As the revised turn around plan could not be implemented due to inherent flaws and meanwhile the viable mills are also losing strength due to cross subsidisation, NTC carried out a techno-economic study of viable mills and a revised plan based on the study is under consideration of the Government. The Secretary, Ministry of Labour has been associated with the examinations of the viability study made by NTC.

lines of the NIOH, Calcutta; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to increase such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) (b) and (d) Proposals are being prepared to open composite Regional Centres of National Institutes for rehabilitation of disabled persons in other parts of the country on receipt of requisite details from the concerned State Governments.

(c) No Sir. There are 2 apex level Institutes namely, National Institute for Rehabilitation, Training and Research in Cuttack near Bhubaneshwar the capital of Orissa and Institute for the Physically Handicapped in New Delhi.

Plight of Textile Mill Workers

*373. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Trade Unions have made any representation on the plight of textile mill workers especially the workers of NTC Mills;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to implement tripartite decision on NTC Mill workers issues; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Representations have been received from time to time from Central Trade Unions regarding revival of NTC mills.

(b) and (c) Details of the steps taken to implement decisions of the Special Tripartite Committee Meeting held on 9.4.94 and 33rd Standing Labour Committee held on 13.9.95 are given at statement.

Statement

(A) Action taken report in respect of agreement reached in meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee held on 9.4.94.

	Recommendation	Action Taken
1.	The report given by the Textile Research Associations (TRAs) so that the NTC mills as well as Taken Over Mills can be made viable by Modernisation	The Government on 9.5.1995 had approved a Revised Turn Around Plan, 1995, mainly based on TRAs Scheme and agreement reached at the Tripartite Committee meeting which envisages, inter-alia, modernisation of 79 mills at a cost of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills, rationalisation of workforce through VRS. However, the plan could not be implemented due to non-approval of the Plan by the BIFR and non-disposal of the surplus land and assets by which the funds have to be generated for the Plan.